Main points of remarks by

Dr. Hans Köchler,
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on aspects of constitutional theory and political philosophy

- Definitional issue / the democratic paradigm: rule of the people or on behalf of the people?
- Systemic problems of representation (in view of "democracy" exclusively being defined as a system of representation, not of participation)
- Oligarchy / lobby rule in the framework of representation, and in particular in the transnational framework
- Alienation of the electorate from office bearers (representatives) in today's globalized environment (with many decisions being made outside the state's democratic constitutional framework)
- The democratic deficit (in particular: legitimation deficit of the European Union as intergovernmental cum transnational structure?)
- Test cases for European democracy (e.g. migration crisis / coronavirus crisis)
- Merits of a hybrid model of democracy (with participatory and representative procedures) (e.g. the Constitution of the Swiss Confederation)

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